

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12 (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A cable connector assembly comprising:

a first cable connector with a mating end and a cable extending away from the connector opposite the mating end;

a first protective boot with a circumferential mating lip at a connector opening, an interior space for receiving the first cable connector and a cable end opposite the connector opening;

the first connector positioned within the interior space of the first boot with the mating end adjacent the connector opening and the cable extending through the cable end, the cable end adapted to fit closely about the cable;

a first endcap with a first end positioned about the mating end of the first connector, the first endcap including an inner bulkhead cooperating with the first boot to cover the mating end of the first connector, the first end of the first endcap including a first circumferential mating lip, the lips of the first end of the first endcap and the first boot mating to form a junction adjacent the mating end of the first connector;

the first endcap also including a second end adapted to fit about a second cable connector which includes a mating end adapted to physically and electrically mate with the mating end of the first connector, ~~and~~ the second end of the first endcap including a second circumferential lip adapted to mate with and form a junction with a circumferential lip of a second protective boot positioned about the second connector.

14. (Original) The cable connector assembly of claim 13, wherein the first endcap includes a tether having an opening sized to fit about the first protective boot.

15. (Original) The cable connector assembly of claim 13, further comprising the second cable connector, the second boot and a second endcap, the second boot including a circumferential mating lip adapted to mate with the circumferential mating lip of the first boot and form a junction between the two boots, the second endcap including a first end and a second end, the second end of the second endcap positioned about the mating end of the second connector and including a circumferential mating lip, the lips of the second end of the second endcap and the second boot mating to form a junction adjacent the mating end of the second connector.

16. (Original) The cable connector assembly of claim 15, wherein the first and second endcaps are adapted to mate with and form junctions with either the first boot or the second boot.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method of covering a mating end of a cable connector comprising:

providing a cable connector of a first or a second gender, the genders defined so that a connector of the first gender mates with a connector of the second gender;

selecting an appropriate end of a dual ended endcap, the endcap including an inner bulkhead for covering the mating end of the connector;

mating the selected end of the endcap with the mating end of the connector.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~ 20, further providing the cable connector positioned within a protective boot, and further comprising mating the selected end of the endcap with the protective boot to form a junction about the mating end.

22. (New) A cable connector assembly comprising:
- a first cable connector with a mating end and a cable extending away from the connector opposite the mating end;
 - a first protective boot with a connector opening, a cable end opposite the connector opening, and an interior space for receiving the first cable connector, the first cable connector positioned within the interior space of the first boot with the mating end adjacent the connector opening and the cable extending through the cable end; and
 - a first endcap with a first end positioned about the mating end of the first connector, the first end of the first endcap mating with the first protective boot to cover the mating end of the first cable connector, the first end of the first endcap also providing a friction fit with the mating end of the first cable connector.
23. (New) A cable connector assembly according to claim 22, wherein the first protective boot includes a circumferential mating lip at the connector opening and wherein the first end of the first endcap includes a circumferential mating lip at the first end that is adapted to mate with the circumferential mating lip of the first protective boot.
24. (New) A cable connector assembly according to claim 22, wherein the first end of the first endcap defines an inner wall sized to frictionally fit the mating end of the first cable connector to cover the mating end of the first cable connector in the absence of the first protective boot.
25. (New) A cable connector assembly according to claim 22, wherein the first endcap defines an inner bulkhead cooperating with the first protective boot to cover the mating end of the first cable connector.
26. (New) A cable connector assembly according to claim 22, wherein the first endcap includes a tether having an opening sized to fit about the first protective boot.

27. (New) A cable connector assembly according to claim 22, wherein the first endcap also includes a second end adapted to mate with a second protective boot positioned about a second cable connector, the second cable connector including a mating end adapted to physically and electrically mate with the mating end of the first cable connector.